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18. The system of claim 16, further comprising:
a plurality of additional second-tier base stations connected wirelessly and serially to said first second-tier base station, each of said additional second-tier base stations comprising a second-tier radio transceiver operating in accordance with said second communication protocol.

B

REMARKS

1. Claim Objections

Applicant's amendment confirms the renumbering of pending claims 1-18 of the present application. It is respectfully suggested that the Examiner's objection be withdrawn.

2. Restriction Requirement

Applicant confirms the election of group I, claims 1-18, without traverse. Accordingly, claims 19-33 have been cancelled, without prejudice to prosecute in divisional applications.

3. Information Disclosure Statement

As requested by the Examiner, an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was submitted prior to the filing of this Amendment. The IDS lists all of the references cited in the instant application that the Examiner has not yet considered.

4. Amendments

All claims have been amended to distinguish over the two references cited by the examiner.

EXTENSION OF TIME

Enclosed with this Amendment is a petition for a 3-month extension of time to extend the response to the July 31, 2002, Office Action from October 31, 2002, to January 31, 2003, and the authorization to charge the appropriate fee therewith.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1-18 contain allowable subject matter.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, Appendix A, showing the markup of changes to the specification and claims by this Amendment, is attached hereto.

If there are any fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 that are not enclosed herewith, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 19-5407.

Should the Examiner be of the view that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment, please call the undersigned at (631) 738-5586.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 31, 2003

APPENDIX A – SHOWING MARKUP OF CHANGES

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. A multi-tier system for digital radio communication, comprising:
 - a first-tier base station comprising a first radio transceiver having an operating range of over about 100 feet operating in accordance with a first communication protocol, said first-tier base station connected to a local area network ("LAN");
 - a second-tier base station comprising a second radio transceiver having an operating range of about 5 to about 100 feet operating in accordance with a second communication protocol independent of said first communication protocol and said second-tier base station connected to said first-tier base station;
 - a first-tier remote unit wirelessly connected to said first-tier base station through said first radio transceiver; and
 - a second-tier remote unit wirelessly connected to said second-tier base station through said second radio transceiver;
- wherein the second radio transceiver operates at a lower power than the first radio transceiver by performing the following steps:
 - (a) synchronizing the second radio transceiver with the second-tier base station;
 - (b) powering down the second radio transceiver for more than half of its operating time;
 - (c) buffering data intended for the second radio transceiver at the second-tier base station;

(d) announcing the buffered data to the second radio transceiver at regular predetermined interval until the second radio transceiver retrieves the buffered data from the second-tier base station.

[6] 7. The system of claim 1, wherein said first-tier remote unit or second-tier remote unit comprises a computer peripheral.

[7] 8. The system of claim 1, wherein said first-tier remote unit or second-tier remote unit comprises a computer peripheral selected from the group comprising a printer, modem, handheld terminal, point of sale station, and other serial or parallel devices.

[8] 9. The system of claim 1, wherein said second-tier base station is wirelessly connected to said first-tier base station.

[9] 10. The system of claim 1, wherein said first-tier base station is wirelessly connected to the LAN.

[10] 11. The system of claim 1, wherein said second-tier base station is connected to said first-tier base station through a serial port.

[11] 12. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
another second-tier base station wirelessly connected to said second-tier base station.

[12] 13. A multi-tier system for digital packet radio communication, comprising:

a host connected to a local area network;

a first-tier base station having an operating range of over about 100 feet connected to said host through the local area network, said first-tier base station comprising a first radio transceiver for spread spectrum radio transmission in accordance with a first communication protocol;

a second-tier base station having an operating range of about 5 to about 100 feet comprising a second radio transceiver operating in accordance with a second communication protocol independent of said first communication protocol and said second-tier base station connected to said first-tier base station;

a remote unit wirelessly connected to said second-tier base station through said second radio transceiver;

wherein the second radio transceiver operates at a lower power than the first radio transceiver by performing the following steps:

(a) synchronizing the second radio transceiver with the second-tier base station;

(b) powering down the second radio transceiver for more than half of its operating time;

(c) buffering data intended for the second radio transceiver at the second-tier base station;

(d) announcing the buffered data to the second radio transceiver at regular predetermined interval until the second radio transceiver retrieves the buffered data from the second-tier base station.

[13] 14. The system of claim [12] 13, further comprising:
an enclosure containing both said first-tier base station and said second-tier base station.

[14] 15. The system of claim [12] 13, further comprising:
another second-tier base station wirelessly connected to said second-tier base station.

[15] 16. A multi-tier system for digital packet radio communication, comprising:
a host connected to a local area network;
a first-tier base station connected to said host through the local area network, said first-tier base station comprising a first-tier radio transceiver for spread spectrum radio transmission in accordance with a first communication protocol;
a second-tier base station having an operating range of about 5 to about 100 feet comprising a second-tier radio transceiver operating in accordance with a second communication protocol independent of said first communication protocol and said second-tier base station connected to said first-tier base station;

another second-tier base station comprising another second-tier radio transceiver communicating in accordance with said second communication protocol and said another second-tier base station connected to said second-tier base station; and

a remote unit wirelessly connected to said another second-tier base station through said another second-tier radio transceiver

wherein each of the second-tier radio transceivers operate at a lower power than the first-tier radio transceiver by performing the following steps:

(a) synchronizing the second-tier radio transceivers with the second-tier base station;

(b) powering down the second-tier radio transceivers for more than half of its operating time;

(c) buffering data intended for the second-tier radio transceivers at the second-tier base station;

(d) announcing the buffered data to the appropriate second-tier radio transceiver at regular predetermined interval until the second-tier radio transceiver retrieves the buffered data from the second-tier base station.

[16] 17. The system of claim [15] 16, further comprising:

additional one or more second-tier base stations connected wirelessly to said first second-tier base station, each of said one or more second-tier base stations comprising a second-tier radio transceiver operating in accordance with said second communication protocol.

[17] 18. The system of claim [15] 16, further comprising:

a plurality of additional second-tier base stations connected wirelessly and serially to said first second-tier base station, each of said additional second-tier base stations comprising a second-tier radio transceiver operating in accordance with said second communication protocol.

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Committee on Patents and Inventions, Washington, D.C.
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